Docket No 067856.0110

PATENT APPLICATION Serial No. 09/620,108

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

HIPP, et al.

Serial No.:

09/620,108

Filing Date:

July 20, 2000

Group Art Unit:

2830

Title:

DATA I/O MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND

METHOD

Assistant Commissioner for

Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of this patent application entitled *Data I/O Management System* and *Method*, by Hipp, et al., please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the last paragraph beginning on page 34 and continuing on to the next page with the following five paragraphs:

Twelve Ethernet connectors 168 are used to couple high density connector 162 with hub chip 166. Similarly, twelve Ethernet connectors 170 are used to couple high density connector 164 with hub chip 166. Hub chip 166 consolidates management network traffic from up to twenty-four web